



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton**

**4<sup>th</sup> District – Los Angeles**

Ramon J. Hirsig  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Board of Equalization Holds Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings**

*Annual Public Hearing Set for June 15, 2010 in Southern California*

Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that the Board will hold a Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing on June 15<sup>th</sup> at the BOE Culver City District Office. The June 15<sup>th</sup> hearing enables Southern California taxpayers to come before the Board with comments on issues related to the business and property taxes laws administered or overseen by the BOE, including environmental fees, sales and use, fuel, excise, and property taxes.

**Event:** Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010  
**Time:** Approximately 3:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Board of Equalization Culver City District Office  
5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 207  
Culver City, CA 90230

Anyone planning to make a presentation at the hearing is invited to contact the BOE [Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office](#) by calling toll free 888-324-2798 or emailing [www.boe.ca.gov/info/emailtra.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/emailtra.htm). More information about the hearing is available online at [www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/heartra.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/heartra.htm). The hearing will also be webcast live at [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov).

A previous hearing was held on April 13<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

In January 1989, the BOE was mandated by the Harris-Katz California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Law to ensure that the rights, privacy, and property of California taxpayers were adequately protected in the assessment and collection of sales and use taxes. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was expanded in 1993 to include special tax programs and the Morgan Property Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was added in 1994. Both the Harris-Katz and the Morgan Taxpayers' Bill of Rights require the BOE to conduct annual hearings to give the public an opportunity to present their ideas, concerns, and recommendations to the Board Members.

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton is the 4<sup>th</sup> District Member of the BOE, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee chair. Horton is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879, and the third African American constitutional officer in California's history. Horton was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both the Assembly and the Senate in 2009. Horton previously served as an Assembly member from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office: [www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm)

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate's Annual Report: [www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra0809.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra0809.pdf)

Publication 70, *Understanding Your Rights as a California Taxpayer*: [www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub70.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub70.pdf)